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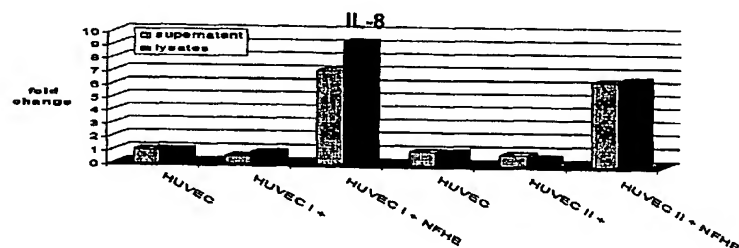
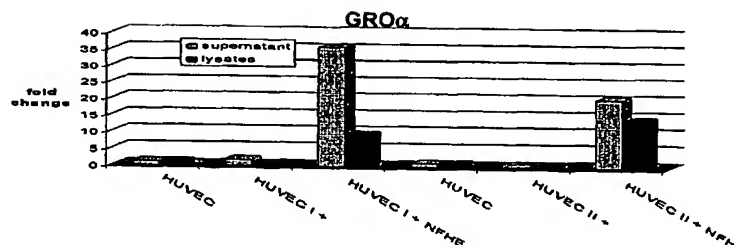
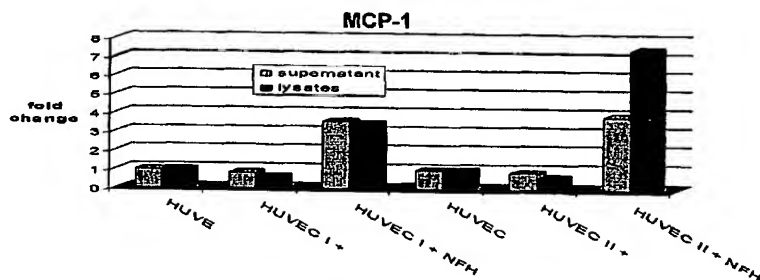
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: NF-HEV COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF USE



(57) Abstract: Aspects of the present invention relate to NF-HEV nuclear factor genes and polypeptides. Other aspects related to the use of NF-HEV nuclear factor polynucleotides and polypeptides expressed in endothelial cells from chronically inflamed tissues, particularly in high endothelial venules endothelial cells (HEVECs) and endothelial cells from HEV-like vessels and small blood vessels, in connection with rheumatoid arthritis and Crohn's disease. Aspects of the invention also relates to drug screening assays for identifying compounds capable of modulating NF-HEV activity, wherein such compounds can be used in inhibiting or preventing chronic inflammation.



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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EMBL, EPO-Internal, MEDLINE, BIOSIS, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DATABASE EMBL [Online] 1 May 1999 (1999-05-01) retrieved from EBI Database accession no. 095760 EMBL XP002290805 100% identity in 270 nt overlap with SEQ ID 1 100% identity in 270 aa overlap with SEQ ID 4	1-126
X	--- DATABASE EMBL [Online] 4 October 1999 (1999-10-04) retrieved from EBI Database accession no. AAY25735 EMBL XP002290806 97.917% identity in 48 nt overlap with SEQ ID 1 & W0993881 A1 --- -/-	1-126

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International Application No

PCT/IB 03/06477

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>DATABASE EMBL [Online]  15 March 1999 (1999-03-15)  retrieved from EBI  Database accession no. AB024518 EMBL  XP002290807  100% identity in 2645 nt overlap with SEQ  ID 1  100% identity in 270 aa overlap with SEQ  ID 4</p>	1-126
A	<p>---  DATABASE EMBL [Online]  23 February 2001 (2001-02-23)  retrieved from EBI  Database accession no. BG288614 EMBL  XP002290808  100% identity in 557 nt overlap with SEQ  ID 2</p>	1-126
X	<p>---  DATABASE EMBL [Online]  1 May 1999 (1999-05-01)  retrieved from EBI  Database accession no. 097863 EMBL  XP002290809  100% identity in 263 nt overlap with SEQ  ID 3  100% identity in 263 aa overlap with SEQ  ID 6</p>	1-126
X	<p>---  DATABASE EMBL [Online]  15 March 1999 (1999-03-15)  retrieved from EBI  Database accession no. AB024517 EMBL  XP002290810  100% identity in 2714 nt overlap with SEQ  ID 3  100% identity in 263 aa overlap with SEQ  ID 6</p>	1-126
A	<p>---  DATABASE EMBL [Online]  18 December 2002 (2002-12-18)  retrieved from EBI  Database accession no. AK075849 EMBL  XP002290811  100% identity in 266 aa overlap with SEQ  ID 5</p>	1-126
A	<p>---  JEAN-PHILIPPE GIRARD ET AL: "High  endothelial venules (HEVs): specialized  endothelium for lymphocyte migration"  IMMUNOLOGY TODAY,  vol. 16, no. 9, 1995, pages 449-457,  XP002290803  the whole document</p> <p>---  -/--</p>	1-126

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
P,X	ESPEN S. BAEKKEVOLD ET AL: "Molecular characterization of NF-HEV, a nuclear factor preferentially expressed in human high endothelial venules" AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PATHOLOGY, vol. 163, no. 1, July 2003 (2003-07), pages 69-79, XP002290804 the whole document	1-126
E	WO 2004 056868 A (GIRARD J PHILIPPE ;AGUILAR LUC (FR); ERARD MONIQUE (FR); ENDOCUBE) 8 July 2004 (2004-07-08) the whole document -----	1-126

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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